



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:** Marion Moss Hubbard

619-236-5848

### **Teens Invited to Visit Their Libraries and Read “Just For the Fun of It” During Teen Read Week 2007 from Oct. 14-20**

SAN DIEGO – San Diego teens will be reading for the fun of it as schools, libraries and bookstores celebrate the tenth annual Teen Read Week, Oct. 14 – 20. They join thousands across the country who are encouraging teens to celebrate this year’s theme, "LOL@ your library®."

Teen Read Week is the national adolescent literacy initiative of the Young Adult Library Services Association, the fastest growing division of the American Library Association. This year’s theme promotes humorous books and graphic novels as a tool for getting young adults to read.

In its support for literacy and Teen Read Week, the San Diego Public Library will offer a variety of special programs for teens at libraries throughout the City. A calendar of events is available on the Library’s web site at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

"Today’s teens seem to have less and less free time, and there are increasingly more activities to for them to take part in during what little leisure time they have," said City Library Director Anna Tatár. "That is why it’s important to encourage teens to set aside time to read."

Literacy is a topic of both local and national concern, and falling test scores and lower graduation rates among teens today are a serious issue. Studies show a regular reading habit increases reading proficiency. Statistics from The Nation’s Report Card (<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>) indicate that in homes across America the number of different types of reading materials has decreased, and a smaller percentage of 17-year-olds saw adults reading in their homes. Being around adults who are avid readers can counteract this trend. "The rich variety of reading materials provided at the Central Library and 35 branch libraries can help San Diego teens develop the love of reading that will last them a lifetime," said Tatár.

Teen Read Week is held annually during the third week of October and is sponsored by the Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of the American Library Association.

*The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future*

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